

REPORT OF NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 15th September 1883.

CONTENTS :

	Page.		Page.
Indefinite powers of the High Court ...	579	The attitude of Bengal officers towards the Govern-	586
A few prayers to Lieutenant-Governor concerning		ment of India ...	587
Comillah ...	ib.	A grievance at the Roorkee College ...	ib.
Backwardness of Mahomedans in education ...	ib.	Steps for giving greater publicity to legislative mea-	
Her Majesty's Government and Lord Ripon ...	ib.	asures ...	ib.
No mention of India in Queen's speech ...	ib.	The Ilbert Bill ...	ib.
Petition for establishing manufacture scholarships ...	ib.	Assistant Inspectorship of Schools, Burdwan Divi-	ib.
The Lieutenant-Governor's tour ...	ib.	sion ...	ib.
Meeting against the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	English character ...	588
No mention of India in Queen's speech ...	580	The outstill system ...	ib.
Mr. Thompson on the Rent Bill ...	ib.	Malaria ...	ib.
Mr. Allen's speech ...	ib.	The High Court Judges on the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.
The Ilbert Bill and the Lieutenant-Governor ...	ib.	The High Court Judges and the Ilbert Bill ...	589
The High Court Judges and the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	War of Gods and Demons ...	590
High-handedness of Mr. Douglas ...	581	Afghanistan... ..	ib.
Anglo-Indian spirit of ascendancy ...	582	Prestige of Anglo-Indians ...	591
The High Court on Native Judges ...	ib.	Assault on European lady... ..	ib.
Mr. Allen's speech ...	ib.	Mr. Greenway's case ...	ib.
Appellate benches ...	ib.	Dacca Municipality and the Lieutenant-Governor ...	ib.
The Agra case ...	583	India and party politics ...	592
Anglo-Indians on the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	The attitude of Englishmen towards Bengalis ...	ib.
Seetarampore and Dugni Railway ...	ib.	Justices Mitter and Nanabhai Haridas on the Ilbert	
Justice Mitter on the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	Bill ...	ib.
The Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	The Lieutenant-Governor on the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.
Who are the rebels ...	ib.	Municipal Expenditure ...	ib.
Manufacture and commerce ...	584	The Lieutenant-Governor on the Ilbert Bill ...	593
Treatment of natives by their rulers ...	ib.	Translation and publication of Bills, &c. ...	594
Arms Act ...	585	The Lieutenant-Governor's minute on the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.
Local officers on the Ilbert Bill and the system of Self-		The silk trade in Bengal ...	595
Government ...	ib.	The High Court Judges and the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.
Costs of Egyptian war ...	ib.	The proposed Appellate Benches... ..	ib.
The Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	Mr. Hume's recent letter to the <i>Pioneer</i> ...	ib.
Appointment of natives as military officers ...	ib.	The Ilbert Bill ...	ib.
The High Court Judges on the Ilbert Bill ...	ib.	Mr. Smith, Commissioner of Orissa ...	596
Haughty Englishmen ...	586	Reduction of travelling allowance of Deputy Inspec-	
An examination of drivers proposed ...	ib.	tors and Sub-Inspectors ...	ib.
An Indian representative in Parliament ...	ib.	Ryots of Khoorda ...	597

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	653	31st August 1883. 1st Fortnight of Bhadra 1290 (B.S.)
2	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	474	
3	"Tripurá Vártavaha"	Comillah ...	.....
4	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore. ....	.....
Weekly.				
5	"Alok "	Calcutta ...	.....	7th September 1883.
6	"Ananda Bazar Patriká "	Ditto ...	700	10th ditto.
7	"Arya Darpan "	Ditto ...	150	7th ditto.
8	"Bangabási "	Ditto ...	8,500	8th ditto.
9	"Bártábaha "	Pubna ...	.....
10	"Bhárat Bandhu "	Calcutta ...	.....
11	"Bhárat Hitaishí "	Burrisal ...	450	31st August 1883.
12	"Bhárat Mihir "	Mymensingh ...	713	
13	"Bardwán Sanjivani "	Burdwan ...	282	4th September 1883.
14	"Cháruvártá "	Sherepore, Mymensingh ...	529	3rd ditto.
15	"Dacca Prakásh "	Dacca ...	526	2nd ditto.
16	"Education Gazette "	Hooghly ...	745	7th ditto.
17	"Grámvártá Prakáshiká "	Comercolly ...	267	8th ditto.
18	"Halisahar Prakáshiká "	Calcutta ...	.....	8th ditto.
19	"Hindu Ranjika "	Beauleah, Rajshahye... ..	200	5th ditto.
20	"Játiya Suhríd "	Calcutta ...	700	
21	"Murshidábád Patriká "	Berhampore ...	418	
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi "	Ditto ...	.....
23	"Navavibhákar "	Calcutta ...	850	10th ditto.
24	"Paridarshak "	Sylhet ...	421	2nd ditto.
25	"Prajá Bandhu "	Chandernagore ...	287	4th and 11th September 1883.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI—concluded.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
26	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	275	
27	"Pratinidhi"	Calcutta ...	1,000	
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah ...	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore ...	220	6th September 1883.
30	"Sádháraní"	Chinsurah ...	500	9th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	5th ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	.....	3rd ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	.....	1st and 8th September 1883.
34	"Saraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	.....
35	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs. ...	.....
36	"Sulabha Samáchar"	Calcutta ...	3,000	8th September 1883.
37	"Surabhi"	Deoghur ...	.....	10th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
38	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Calcutta ...	250	7th to 11th September 1883.
39	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	7th to 12th ditto.
40	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	8th to 11th ditto.
41	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	500	
42	"Prabhátí"	Ditto ...	500	7th to 11th ditto.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	8th September 1883.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	6th ditto.
45	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	
46	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	.....	8th ditto.
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	7th ditto.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
48	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
49	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	188	1st ditto.
50	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	200	
51	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	92	
52	"Purusottam Patriká"	Pooree ...	330	30th August 1883.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
53	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna ...	400	

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

1. The *Tripura Vartavaha* of the first fortnight of Bhadra, 1290 (B. S.), thinks that agitation should be made to restrict the indefinite powers which, according to the decision of the Privy Council in Surendra Nath's case, the High Courts of this country possess. The newspapers in England are unanimously of opinion that such powers will prove very mischievous in this country. TRIPURA VARTAVAHA
1st fortnight of
Bhadra, 1290 (B.S.)
- Indefinite powers of the High Court.
2. The same paper requests the Lieutenant-Governor to make Comillah a station for conducting the University Entrance examination; to convert the Comillah zillah school into a high school; to introduce the elective system into the Comillah Municipality, and to connect it by means of railway with other parts of the country. At present, the students of Comillah who wish to go up for the Entrance examination have to go to Dacca or Chittagong, where they suffer considerably from illness. TRIPURA VARTAVAHA.
- A few prayers to the Lieutenant-Governor concerning Comillah.
3. The *Purva Pratidhwani* of the 31st August believes that the cause which prevents the Mahomedans of Chittagong from making much progress in education is to be found in the fact that they are either rich or poor. Wealthy zemindars and merchants find no inducement to educate their children, and, being themselves uneducated, they do not understand the value of education. Those who are too poor are so engrossed with the thought of earning their daily bread, that they can pay no attention to anything else. PURVA PRATIDHWANI
August 31st, 1883.
- Backwardness of Mahomedans in education.
4. The *Bharat Hitaishi* of the 31st August says that there can no longer be any doubt that Her Majesty's Government is cordially supporting the administrative system and measures of Lord Ripon. The Prime Minister, Mr. Gladstone, has clearly spoken on this subject. BHARAT HITAIISHI,
August 31st, 1883.
- Her Majesty's Government and Lord Ripon.
5. The *Sanjivani* of the 1st September notices with sorrow that no mention was made of India in the Queen's speech proroguing the Parliament. SANJIVANI,
Sept. 1st, 1883.
- No mention of India in Queen's speech.
6. The same paper is glad to learn that the people of *Kirtipasha* and *Kaora* have sent a petition to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that the Government of Bengal would be pleased to establish Manufacture scholarships, as it has established Agricultural scholarships, with a view to send educated natives to England to learn manufactures. It is earnestly to be hoped that Government would grant their prayer. So long as the people of this country are not trained in English manufactories, their material condition will not improve. SANJIVANI.
- Petition for establishing Manufacture scholarships.
7. Referring to the tour of the Lieutenant-Governor, the same paper makes the following observations:—Wherever the Lieutenant-Governor is going, various displays are being made. But we have not heard whether, on inspection, His Honor has devised any means for increasing local prosperity and for opening a new path for the promotion of agriculture and commerce, and whether His Honor has helped to open wider the doors of justice, or made any provision for rectifying local abuses. It is our opinion that if much time is lost in amusement, there is a failure to a considerable extent in the attainment of the real object of such inspections. The mind struck with outward loveliness cannot easily reach the evil within. SANJIVANI.
- The Lieutenant-Governor's tour.
8. Referring to the meeting held in England under the presidency of Mr. Stanhope against the Ilbert Bill, the same paper writes:—We should be thankful to the SANJIVANI.
- Meeting against the Ilbert Bill.

promoters of this meeting. Through their favour we have come to know that, notwithstanding much misrepresentation and incitement, the opponents of the Ilbert Bill could not influence the public opinion of England. It is a matter of regret that such splendid epithets as "English working-men in India" "Polygamous native judges," &c., should have been thrown upon barren ground. These sharp weapons had been reserved to the last to pierce the hearts of Lord Ripon and of the people of India. The quiver was emptied, but, alas! none of the arrows took effect.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Sept. 2nd, 1883.

9. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 2nd September is very sorry to find no mention of India in the Queen's speech read recently on the occasion of proroguing the British Parliament.

DACCA PRAKASH.

Mr. Thompson on the Rent Bill.

10. Referring to what the Lieutenant-Governor said at Ranaghat and Bhagulpore on the Rent Bill, the same paper makes the following observations:—We have heard with surprise and sorrow these words of Mr. Rivers Thompson. Whether the Sovereign, the zemindar, or the ryot is the real proprietor, Omniscient God alone knows. But it is being now indirectly declared that the zemindars do not possess the right, which has been in existence for a long time, which they have got in the land for nearly a hundred years, and which they have disposed of and are disposing of at pleasure. What can be more amazing or curious than this? Is the Sovereign more directly related to the land than the ryot is? Then, in Mr. Thompson's opinion, the Sovereign also has no proprietary right in the land! We cannot understand why the same principles should not apply in the case of the zemindar, on which the right of the Sovereign in the land is admitted.

DACCA PRAKASH.

Mr. Allen's speech.

11. Referring to Mr. Allen's speech at the late meeting of the Anglo-Indian Association, the same paper writes as follows:—It is said that Mr. Allen is an Irishman. We do not know whether he belongs to Mr. Parnell's party. However, such seditious words against the English Government may suit an Irishman. But Mr. Allen should bear in mind that Government, if so minded, can very easily put down the opposition of a few men like him. We only smile when we hear such haughty words from the mouths of those who would find it difficult to get a livelihood but for the wealth of India. It is a matter of wonder that Government remains silent on hearing such seditious words. Will no steps be taken to put down these rebels?

PARIDARSHAK,
Sept. 2nd, 1883.

The Ilbert Bill and the Lieutenant-Governor.

12. Referring to the view of the Lieutenant-Governor, that the Ilbert Bill will benefit two natives only, while it will wound the feelings of a whole class, the *Paridarsak* of the 2nd September writes as follows:—The words of Mr. Thompson are no doubt sweet to hear. But did he utter them candidly? Or has he given another special proof of his crooked heart? We say, if the Anglo-Indians consider it a very small matter, then why do they not cease to agitate, and contribute a little to our satisfaction? Where injustice is being done, even a thousandth part of justice appears to us as a store-house of justice, and we become to some extent re-assured. But their opinions are of a curious kind. Where injustice is being done, there they will not allow justice to be done: there injustice will reign. We say in this matter our greatness appears. Englishmen oppress us, and we can bear it. But two Judges from among us will try them, and this they cannot bear. Yet it is all our fault. Ruler of Bengal, your judgment is commendable!

SAMAYA,
Sept. 3rd, 1883.

The High Court Judges and the Ilbert Bill.

13. The *Samaya* of the 3rd September contains two articles on the High Court Judges and the Ilbert Bill, from which the following observations are extracted:—The Judges point it out as a very bad arrangement that, in the mofussil,

the same Magistrate is both prosecutor and Judge; but they say that no evil consequences flow from this arrangement on account of the superintendence of European District Magistrates. But have the Judges forgotten the Chittagong case, the Balasore case, the illegal acts of Mr. Skrine at Bhagulpore, the arbitrary proceedings of Mr. Westmacott at Dacca, and of Mr. Kirkwood at Chittagong? Or, are outrages on natives not to be deemed outrages? As regards Messrs. R. C. Dutt, B. L. Gupta, A. Barua, and K. G. Gupta, the Judges think there is no necessity of vesting them with power to try European British subjects. Why will they be disqualified to try English offenders? The Judges may say that they are black natives, and can never become the equal of the English civilian. But no intelligent man will listen to their arguments. They have said that the number of civilians who pass the competitive examination is not likely to increase. But what is its cause? A low-minded Secretary of State and a Viceroy reduced the maximum limit of age of candidates to 19 years. Thereby they undoubtedly gave sufficient proof of their enlightenment and sense of justice. But if the present Liberal Government changes the limit of age from 19 years to 22 years, the number of natives who pass the examination will doubtless increase. The Government of India is likely to come soon to a decision on this point. The Judges have brought a serious charge against native Magistrates. They say that native Judges are subject to the influence of local magnates and local opinion, while the European Magistrates are above such influences. We say that it is doubtful whether native Judges do a hundredth part of the wrong that is done by European Magistrates, who go wrong under the influence of men of their race. Then referring to the Balasore case, the Barrackpore case, Mr. Hewitt's case, and Mr. Stapleton's case, the writer observes:—"There is no necessity of giving further illustrations. No Englishman, who has committed a murder in the mofussil, has yet received condign punishment. Why? Perhaps because the Magistrate sees no proof, and says that the deceased committed suicide in order to bring the saheb into trouble. In the mofussil, where natives and Englishmen are opposed to each other in criminal cases, the lightest possible punishment is inflicted on Englishmen, and the heaviest possible punishment under the Penal Code upon natives. The Judges may not know this, but natives know it well." Because in some civil matters, such as succession, marriage, &c., each nation is governed in this country by its special laws, the Judges hold that the same principle applies in criminal cases. But we ask them humbly, are the Hindus in British India governed by the criminal laws of Manu? According to Manu, a Brahmin who commits even a great crime cannot be put to death. The Mahomedans are also competent according to their sacred law to kill *kafirs*. Are the Hindus or Mahomedans governed by these Hindu or Mahomedan penal laws? If not, why ask for special privileges in criminal cases? In criminal cases, if any class has special privileges, they are sure to do injury to society. Because Englishmen have these unjust special privileges, therefore do we hear from time to time of their causing rupture of spleen, liver, or lungs, or shooting natives by mistake or under the influence of insanity.

14. The same paper notices several acts of high-handedness committed upon natives by a civilian Assistant Commissioner of Assam, named Mr. Douglas, and

High-handedness of Mr. Douglas.

states that he lately refused to entertain a complaint against a European, who had insulted a native juror and struck a blind man. The writer remarks:—"It is for these reasons Englishmen in the mofussil are unwilling to be tried by native Judges. They are thus protected by Magistrates of their own race. The question now is, will Mr. Douglas be promoted? We say, this is very proper, for hitherto all high-handed civilians have got speedy

SAMAYA.
Sept. 3rd, 1883.

promotion. Promotion has become a prescriptive right of high-handed civilians. Kirkwood, Lowis, and Mosley are instances of this. The reason why it has been so is to be found in the fact that the civilians who are partial to their fellow-countrymen, become the favourites of the Commissioners; hence the path of their promotion becomes clear. Again, those who make no distinction between natives and Englishmen, become the eye-sore of the Commissioners. Mr. Weir is an example of this. The Commissioner, Mr. Beames, omits not to complain against him, or to discredit him. It seems that Mr. Beames is at the bottom of Mr. Weir's transfer from Hooghly."

CHARU VARTA,
Sept. 3rd, 1883.

15. Referring to what Mr. Gladstone said in the House of Commons regarding the spirit of ascendancy of the Anglo-Indians in this country, the *Charu Varta* of the 3rd September observes that this spirit of ascendancy will have to be removed from the minds of the Anglo-Indians; otherwise India will not sleep without anxiety; the fire of disquiet will continue to burn within. So long as the present system of administration continues to exist, the ascendancy of the Anglo-Indians will remain; but notwithstanding all its efforts, not even the Anglo-Indian Defence Association can save it. It is not Mr. Gladstone, or Mr. Bright, or Lord Kimberly, who is alone against it. The free thought, the liberal spirit, and the principle of equality of the nineteenth century are in conflict with it.

CHARU VARTA.

16. Referring to the remark of the High Court Judges, that "it is no disparagement of the integrity or ability of a native Judge to say that he is necessarily more amenable to the external influences to which popular feeling, local prejudice, or the wishes and interests of powerful individuals may give rise, than is a European officer," the same paper makes the following observations:—We have been struck dumb, on seeing such an unjust opinion expressed by the High Court regarding a class of trusted officers of high rank. The Judges say that it becomes often difficult for native civilians to act against the public opinion of the native community, and that hence it is found necessary to transfer cases from their file to other courts. On hearing of such a serious charge made by the Judges, we feel a disposition to throw away our pen in very contempt.

CHARU VARTA.

17. Referring to Mr. Allen's speech at the recent meeting of the Anglo-Indian Association, the same paper writes as follows:—We gravely doubt whether Mr. Allen has not really lost his senses. Does he, and do his brethren, really believe that if they stood up against this law, the Government would not be able to carry it into effect? If the Government of India be so feeble and sheep-like, it has only to resign its sovereignty, and prepare to depart.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Sept. 4th, 1883.

18. The *Burdwan Sanjibani* of the 4th September makes the following remarks regarding the proposed Appellate Benches:—We have said before that the establishment of Appellate Benches was not likely to reduce the number of appeals to the High Court; but that the appeals made would take more time. If that be the case, the object for which Appellate Benches are proposed to be established will not be attained; on the contrary, there will be an increase of inconvenience. Now-a-days the costs of appeals have so far increased that there are very few appeals. If Appellate Benches be established, they will be still fewer. One Appellate Bench will be established for several districts. In each district two Judges sitting separately cannot dispose of all cases. We cannot, therefore, understand how can two Judges, sitting together, not only dispose of all those appeals, but also have time to dispose of appeals from other districts.

19. The following observations are extracted from the *Hindu Ranjika*

HINDU RANJIKA,
Sept. 5th, 1883.

The Agra case.

of the notorious Commissioner during the present regime. Now we are expecting the promotion of the worthy Sessions Judge of Agra, who, for such extraordinary reasons as the unhealthiness of the jail, the intensity of heat, &c., reduced the sentence passed by the Magistrate on the European who had struck a native woman. The Chief Justice of the Hon'ble Agra High Court set aside his illegal order, and confirmed that of the Magistrate. Therefore his promotion is certainly desirable. Only because of the white colour of an outrageous offender, the worthy Judge reduced the term of imprisonment on the ground of the unhealthiness of the jail. These men, again, describe the people of India as untruthful.

20. The *Sahachar* of the 5th September observes that the opponents of the Ilbert Bill, finding every argument to fail,

SAHACHAR,
Sept. 5th, 1883.

Anglo-Indians on the Ilbert Bill.

are saying at last that they would not submit to native Magistrates, even if the law were passed. The indigo-planter, Mr. Hudson, who is the principal preacher of government by the sword, was the first to raise this cry. On conquering Asia the Romans lost their former spirit of independence. The Europeans in India, who have been constantly called huzurs by khansamas and people of that class, seem to have lost their English instincts. What the European editors recommend would strike at the root of the empire. It is useless to compare the people of this country with those of Turkey or Japan. They have received an English training; and English statesmen have tried to make India as much a part of England as Scotland or Wales. The people of this country also wish this. There should not be any departure from this policy.

21. The same paper asks Government to reconsider its decision regarding the Seetarampore and Dugni Railway, because the mercantile community of Bengal urge

SAHACHAR.

Seetarampore and Dugni Railway.

that, though the initial expenditure will be greater, a line of railway commencing at Ulubaria and passing through Midnapore, Puri, &c., is likely to do more good to the country and to the cause of commerce.

22. The same paper notices with pleasure that Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter has given an independent opinion regarding the Ilbert Bill. The writer thinks

SAHACHAR

Justice Mitter on the Ilbert Bill.

that in Justice Mitter's minute the arguments of his European colleagues have been completely refuted.

23. The *Rungpore Dikprakash* of the 6th September says that from the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal downwards most Government officers are

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Sept. 6th, 1883.

The Ilbert Bill.

opposed to the Ilbert Bill. All the Calcutta High Court Judges have expressed opinions adverse to the Bill, but the native Judge, Baboo Romesh Chunder Mitter, has supported the Bill. His minute has an air of newness about it, and his arguments are unanswerable. He says, Englishmen have no such special law on the strength of which they can claim to be tried by Englishmen. None of the laws enacted up to 1872 contain any special provision like those they are fighting for. We applaud Romesh Baboo's sense of justice, and we are glad that at such a fearful crisis as this he has not swerved from the path of justice.

24. The same paper in an article headed "Who are the rebels" states that though the Bengalis are called disloyal for little faults, the British-born in this country

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

Who are the rebels?

escape though they behave most wildly. The Ilbert Bill has maddened a certain section of the English community. For this madness the proper medicine is punishment under the law; otherwise the country will suffer. Lord Ripon should not display generosity at such a time. "To punish the

wicked, to protect the good," is the true royal policy. What the *Bengal Times* of Dacca said the other day is known to our readers. Had a Bengali spoken in that tone, we can easily conceive what would have been his fate.....The *Englishman* has stated that to the end constitutional agitation should be made against the Bill. If nevertheless the Bill becomes law, recourse must be had to arms. Who else are called rebels? If a declared wish to have recourse to arms against the Government does not make a man guilty of the crime of rebellion, kings should cease to use the word rebellion. If in an important matter like this the English and the Bengalis are not treated in the same way, a stain will attach to the English sense of justice. Who can say that those who want to frighten the Government into keeping in force an unfair law, are incapable of standing up against the Government? Now see who is the rebel? The sahebs or the Bengalis? Whatever the sahebs may say, Lord Ripon is not so timid a man as to neglect his duty under the influence of their threats. He will no doubt trample under his feet the unrighteous opinions of hot-headed sahebs, and let fly in India the banner of justice.

RUNGPORE DIX
PRAKASH,
Sept. 6th, 1883.

25. In an article on manufacture and commerce, the same paper exhorts his countrymen to do what they can to encourage local industries and manu-

factures, and refers to the time when the women of India not only parted with their jewels, but cut their fine hair to furnish material for bow-strings to repel the enemy. Just think, if, under divine influence, India becomes free; but without commerce, manufactures, and agriculture, how can that condition last? If our worshipful white lords leave India to-day making over to us the work of Government, how shall we get for our daily use the various articles of English manufacture? How shall we be able to prepare these articles ourselves?

ALOK,
Sept. 7th, 1883.

26. The *Alok* of the 7th September, in an article headed "Are we objects of kindness, or are we subject to justice," alludes to the Queen's proclamation on her assumption of direct sovereignty over India as the people's Magna Charta, and says that under it there are no distinctions between natives of India and Englishmen. Distinctions of race, colour, and creed ceased in the eye of the law of (Imperial) policy. All subjects of England's Queen are equal; the same honours are due to dhotee and chadder as to hat and coat. If a native of India be well-educated, efficient in work, and of good character, all the posts filled by Englishmen become open to him. His black skin will be no bar to his employment. These are the promises of the Queen. But there is a difference between royal promises and the pretensions of her subjects. The Queen sees with equal eye the native and the Englishman. But can her English subjects relinquish their self-interest? Coming to India, they indulge in luxuries like the God of heaven; how can they give these up? Looking into the matters closely, there is something to amuse us. The British system of Government is full of despotic acts; but there is no lack of lip-liberality. They will get the moon for you from heaven, the pearl from the sea. Because they never have to fulfil a promise, they are so liberal that you cannot find their equal in the three worlds. Lord Ripon from his love of truth and justice wishes to fulfil the Queen's pledges, and his countrymen take up arms against him. In fact, can this be tolerated by the heroic and spirited Englishmen, to keep promise with a native? Fie on the English name! Fie on beer, beef, and mutton-chop; fie on hat, coat, and red colour! Pledges with a native? And these to be fulfilled? Who will listen to the lunatic Ripon? In the mofussil, we are lords—we are all-powerful tea-planters, indigo-planters, coffee-planters—we are resolved to hate Lord Ripon's law

as hell—we won't abide by the law. The English word "loyalty" indeed is an empty word. In fact there is no loyalty in England. Had there been loyalty, the planters here would not have audaciously asserted "we won't abide by Ripon's law." We now understand that the English are self-willed. Their will is law.

27. The *Arya Darpan* of the 7th September observes that on account of the enforcement of the Arms Act, the depredations of wild animals have increased in various parts of the country. Does not Government hear to what straits people have been brought in consequence of being disarmed?

ARYA DARPAN,
Sept. 7th, 1883.

28. The *Prabhati* of the 7th September remarks that local officers are opposed to the system of self-government as well as to the Ilbert Bill. As they cannot make a direct opposition, they are trying to gain their object indirectly. The writer then gives certain extracts from the report of the Commissioner of Patna division to justify his position.

PRABHATI,
Sept. 7th, 1883.

29. The *Gramavarta Prakashika* of the 8th September notices with sorrow that the present Liberal Ministry has made India contribute to the costs of the Egyptian war, and that the House of Commons has affirmed the liability of India to make such contributions.

GRAMAVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Sept. 8th, 1883.

30. The following observations are extracted from the same paper:—In an evil moment did Mr. Ilbert draft this new Bill, which has disturbed the equanimity of the Europeans. Since then how many charges are being brought against us, one by one. The opponents of the Bill say that the life, property, and honour of Europeans in the mofussil depend upon the favour of natives. By bringing without any cause false cases, natives will not allow Europeans to remain in the mofussil. Hence all trade and commerce will be stopped, and India will greatly suffer. Mistaken Bengalis do not understand this. What a keen understanding! On hearing such things, the Bengalis, who know the state of the interior, cannot refrain from laughing. In the mofussil, it is rather the natives whose life depends upon the favour of the *huzurs*. When white men in various guises, sometimes as indigo-planters, sometimes as zemindars, sometimes as sportsmen, &c., constantly wave their wand of death upon innocent native ryots in the mofussil, the *Englishman* seems to steep his nose and ears with cotton. Otherwise we cannot find any cause of such blind belief.

GRAMAVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

31. The *Halisahar Prakashika* of the 8th September urges the claims of the people of India to appointments in the higher ranks of the army. There is no nation on the face of the earth more loyal than the people of India. Great military authorities like Sir John Lawrence have admitted the military capacity of natives. Even the Mahomedan rulers of India appointed natives to high posts in the army. If the enlightened British Government do not give them such posts, it will fail in its duty as the ruling power. If natives be admitted, there will be also considerable reduction of military expenditure.

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA,
Sept. 8th, 1883.

32. Referring to the minute of the Calcutta High Court Judges on the Ilbert Bill, the same paper observes as follows:—The prestige of the Judges would have been better preserved, had they not published the reasons, the arguments, and the matters on which they gave their opinion against the Bill. To the ordinary arguments which were brought against the Bill, they have not been able to add anything new. In fact, there was nothing new to say. It is self-evident that the glory

HALISAHAR
PRAKASHIKA.

of religion, respect for truth, and liberality of heart cannot be preserved by writing against that which is living truth, and consistent with reason, law, and religion. We are compelled to write with great sorrow that the High Court Judges (with the exception of the Hon'ble Romesh Chunder Mitter) have given their opinion against a self-evident and righteous measure. The fears they have shown in connection with the passing of the Bill are thoroughly ridiculous. We could never believe the wise Judges would raise such worthless objections. They have written their minute so much in the manner of an advocate as to clearly show that they were prepared to write against the Bill, and have now found a fit opportunity to make their views known to the public.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
Sept. 8th, 1883.

33. The *Sulabha Samachar* of the 8th September contains an article on "Haughty Englishmen and the future of India," the substance of which is given

below:—We never knew before that Englishmen could be so much opposed to the British empire. We have become anxious on hearing certain utterances at the meeting of the Anglo-Indians at the Town Hall, and recently from the Editor of the *Englishman*. The remark of Mr. Gladstone that the spirit of ascendancy of the Anglo-Indians should be checked has very much wounded their feelings. The other day Mr. Allen said that if the Anglo-Indians did not obey the law passed by the Government, who could make them obey? Who could extinguish their race pride? History also shows that wherever rampant Europeans have gone with their race pride, they have destroyed the independence and threatened the very existence of natives. When they set their foot upon American soil, the aboriginal Indians disappeared before them. The conduct of Anglo-Indians is making us anxious for the future. They will have either to submit to the Christian rule of England, or to try to exterminate the people of this country, and to take up arms against England with a view to establish their independence. From what the *Englishman* has said we are surprised to find that he is inciting them to prepare for war, and follow the example of American Englishmen. God has placed India for her deliverance in the hands of England; it is hoped that He will not allow her to be destroyed.

UCHIT BAKTA,
Sept. 8th, 1883.

34. The *Uchit Bakta* of the 8th September advises the authorities of the Calcutta Municipality to hold an examination of Drivers proposed.

to those who pass successfully, and to lay down a rule that none but certificated drivers shall drive carriages. This will lead to a diminution of carriage accidents in the metropolis.

SAMVAD
PRABHAKAR,
Sept. 8th, 1883.

35. The *Sambad Prabhakar* of the 8th September thinks that it is necessary to have an Indian representative in Parliament. Liberal statesmen are likely to assist Baboo Lal Mohan Ghosh, if he offers himself as a candidate for election in England. To help him to enter Parliament, subscriptions should be raised in this country.

BANGABASI,
Sept. 8th, 1883.

36. The following observations are extracted from the *Bangabasi* of the 8th September:—From the attitude, reports, and resolutions of the Government of Bengal, it seems as if it has no binding relation with the Government of India, as if Mr. Thompson is perfectly independent, and as if the officers subordinate to him care nothing for the Government of India. At present, the Commissioners and Magistrates of Bengal are showing their independence in thought and speech. None is failing to make indirect attacks on the Ilbert Bill. This is the attitude in the reports also. This is really very bad. Mr. Halliday, the Commissioner of the Patna division, has, in his annual report, clearly tried to show that the people of the Patna division

The attitude of Bengal officers
towards the Government of India.

do not understand the Ilbert Bill, and do not want it. The Collector of Patna learnt from a Mahomedan somewhere, that were the Ilbert Bill passed into law, the Hindus would try Mussulmans, and that Mussulmans did not want that. Taking up this curious statement, the Collector made a display of his knowledge, and took occasion to show the unsuitability of the Ilbert Bill. The Commissioner also took up the cry, and could not keep concealed the dislike he entertained in his heart against the Ilbert Bill. Our Lieutenant-Governor, instead of saying anything against such presumptions, seemed to be greatly pleased. He is now waging war against Lord Ripon. But we are really very sorry to see such disobedience on the part of a provincial Government.

The officers of the Bengal Government have also no confidence in the system of self-government. What have they not done, and what are they not doing to put obstacles in the way of this honest measure? The officers of the Patna division say with one voice that, except a few pleaders and mookhtears, all are indifferent to the scheme of self-government; that none are for the freedom of election; and that all wish to make the Magistrate the Chairman. We venture to say that this statement of the Patna officials is not true. There are many men even among Beharis who pray for the system of free election. There are officers enough in the Patna division who, like the Magistrate of Monghyr, can make a subordinate speak against the elective franchise. It is their high-handedness which is throwing obstacles in the path of the self-government scheme. By hinting at the difference existing between Hindus and Mussulmans, many of the worthies have given a proof of what they themselves feel. Has not Mr. Thompson understood this?

37. The same paper points out that pure natives cannot enter the department of supervisors and overseers in the Roorkee College, because none who are not volunteers can do so, and natives are not admitted as volunteers. The editor draws the attention of Lord Ripon to this.

BANGABASI.
Sept. 8th, 1883.

38. The same paper approves of the principles laid down in the recent letter of the Government of India for giving greater publicity to legislative measures. The writer cannot understand why greater favour should be shown to English newspapers than to vernacular newspapers. The principles laid down by the Government of India should also be followed by Local Governments; and the official Gazettes should be supplied to the editors of newspapers *gratis*.

BANGABASI.

39. The *Sanjibani* of the 8th September says the Ilbert Bill has still one danger to encounter. The danger is lest a majority of the members of the Legislative Council give an opinion adverse to the Bill. But as the Ministry have resolved to pass the Bill, Lord Ripon will pass it in disregard of such opinion.

SANJIVANI.
Sept. 8th, 1883.

40. The same paper notices with surprise that no officer has yet been appointed to succeed Baboo Brahmo Mohan Mullick as Assistant Inspector of Schools, Burdwan division. It is said that the post is not likely to be filled up until Mr. Croft resumes charge of his office. Considering the educational importance of the Burdwan division, it is not good to keep the post vacant so long. Baboo Raj Krishna Roy Chowdhory, Deputy Inspector of Hooghly, discharged satisfactorily the duties of Assistant Inspector of Schools, Burdwan, during the absence on deputation of Baboo Brahmo Mohan Mullick to Cooch Behar. Besides Raj Krishna Baboo is a well-educated and an experienced and able officer of the Education Department. The writer would be glad to see him appointed.

SANJIVANI.

SADHARANI,
Sept. 9th, 1883.

41. The *Sadharani* of the 9th September observes that there are two types of English character, one impartial and the other selfish, one regal and the other mercantile in mental structure. To the first class belong such men as Mr. Bright and Lord Ripon; and to the second class most Anglo-Indians, from the great merchants of Calcutta to insignificant indigo-planters in the mofussil. When the two types of character get mixed up, the mercantile type generally asserts its supremacy. It is this mixed type which is generally seen in India.

SADHARANI.

42. The same paper deplors the spread of drunkenness among the poor cultivators and labourers of Bengal in consequence of the establishment of the outstill system. If drunkenness spreads for some years at the rate it is now doing, great troubles will be brought upon this country. People should not remain indifferent to this matter.

SADHARANI.

43. The same paper fears that there will be a terrible revival of malaria this year. Obstructed drainage is the principal cause of malarious fever; and railways in this country very much interfere with drainage. If local officers, instead of proceeding on tour during the cold weather only, were now to visit the tracts of country within their jurisdiction, and to remove obstructions to drainage wherever found, they would do a great deal of good.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

44. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* of the 10th September referring to the opinions expressed by the Judges of the Calcutta High Court on the Jurisdiction Bill, says that any one who takes the trouble to analyse these opinions will come to the conclusion, that when Europeans commit crimes, they are not fairly tried. Naturally the European officers who try them are prepossessed in their favour. The Judges admit this when they say that in this country, the judicial and police functions are united in the same person, who enquires and apprehends criminals, and also tries them, that the educated European who enquires into a case is not prejudiced against the prisoner. that European offenders therefore have nothing to fear from the prejudices of the trying officer, that natives will not be able to free themselves from such prejudice, and that European criminals will therefore suffer. Whether the above arguments go against the Bill or not, they prove that the present union of police and judicial functions often defeats justice. The Judges have, in their desire to condemn the Jurisdiction Bill, brought to light a real source of injustice in this country. It is surprising that though the Judges admit that many innocent persons suffer from this arrangement, they get angry when a judicial officer lets off prisoners, or sentences them to light punishment. The arguments of the Judges should have had general application, and been directed against the removal of the present system. No sensible person can accept these arguments, when used merely in favour of European offenders. This also proves that European officers favour European offenders, and that so long as the jurisdiction is not given to men of other races, so long will Europeans commit crimes without hindrance. In other words, the High Court Judges prove by their reasoning that the Jurisdiction Bill ought to be enacted. The second objection by the Judges is that the Government has always shown special anxiety in regard to the trial of European offenders. Lord Hartington, however, maintained the other day that the Law Commission, appointed to revise the laws of India, recommended that no distinction should be maintained between the trial of Europeans and natives, and that before Stephen's Act of 1872, no law prevented the trial of British-born subjects by persons not of European parentage. The third argument of the

Judges excites pity. They say that the number of native civilians is now small. When the number becomes large, it will be time to consider whether the jurisdiction should be conferred. The Judges have admitted how they sympathise with criminals. They say in substance, "That many Europeans will look upon the proposed alteration with apprehension is reasonable enough. They live in the moffusil at a disadvantage. They often live alone, among people alien to them in religious customs, race, and usages. Europeans in the moffusil are either zemindars or traders, and therefore disputes between, them and the people occur. The railway and other employés are, if possible, exposed to greater danger. They do not know the language of this country, and the native pleaders do not like to take up their cases. If a judicial officer, who does not understand these conditions, is invested with powers over them, what terrible injustice will be done to them!" We can now understand the reason why European Judges and European Juries acquit European prisoners, even when their guilt is proved. The Judges of the High Court enable us to understand the reason. ... The Judges have shown how weak they are when dealing with Europeans.

45. In another article, purporting to refute the opinions of the Judges of the High Court, the same paper says that before 1857, these opinions in respect to the position of Europeans in the moffusil were

The High Court Judges and the
Ilbert Bill.

held by all authorities, from the Governor-General to the lowest policeman. When an indigo-planter complained against any one, the police and the local officers were eager to help them; even the Commissioner and the higher officials were eager to help them. The moffusil European officers, with the view of increasing the influence of the planters, visited them at their houses, and amused themselves there; and if the indigo-planters came to the sudder station, they used to live with the Judge or the Magistrate. The impartiality of Sir J. P. Grant afterwards made the hakims to avoid public friendship with the indigo-planters, so that the fearful influence they had, diminished. The ryots began to believe that redress against planters was become possible, and so became bold enough to complain against them. The change of policy inaugurated by Sir J. P. Grant led a few moffusil Europeans to danger, but they were not hurt; they were never causelessly punished or led into danger. What happened was that their oppressions became less. Formerly, many of them at different times in broad daylight set fire to villages, saturated the earth with human blood; like robbers plundered houses in broad daylight; and women of character dared not come out of their houses for fear of them. After the change above referred to they could no longer perpetrate all this; so they incurred losses, but not otherwise. If, under Lord Ripon's auspices, the Jurisdiction Bill becomes law, Europeans probably will suffer no more loss than that set forth above. They will then have a fear of being tried by a native officer. This fear will merely serve to prevent commission of crimes by them unchecked. Every indigo-planter was not a criminal; there were many good men among them. The good had to close their business because of the bad. So at the present day. The partial administration of justice causes many good and innocent Europeans to suffer loss. Europeans commit crimes, and are acquitted by the courts. This encourages the bad in their evil course, and casts a stain on the good. The Judges, by showing partiality in administering justice, become guilty in the eye of God, and the people begin to look down upon the Government. We will not allude to the losses incurred by natives under such a system. If the Jurisdiction Bill becomes law, the Europeans in this country and England and Europe will be more benefited than the natives. The High Court Judges say that the condition of Europeans in the moffusil is pitiable. Had they known anything of the moffusil, they would never

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

have said so. The people regard moffusil Europeans as Government officers. They look upon them as kith and kin of the Empress. They are at liberty to kill ten men. They can commit crimes with impunity. Even a big zemindar will, for this reason, treat with respect a common European. If the High Court Judges will enquire, they will come to know that moffusil people, unless really in danger, never complain against Europeans. Many cases again are brought by Europeans. If they had no influence, they could not have brought cases at their will. They would have feared that no witnesses would come forward on their behalf. But the moffusil Europeans do not bring only true charges against natives; they often bring false cases, and prove them true. The High Court Judges have made another wrong statement, viz., that the moffusil Europeans do not know the language of the country; that they are so poor as to be unable to engage barristers. Many moffusil pleaders now know English. The statement that these pleaders do not take up cases of Europeans is not correct, as we know that all the best pleaders in a district are engaged by Europeans. The same argument would apply the opposite way. No European barrister took up the case of Surendra Nath Banerjee; so he ought not to have been sent to jail.

ABANUA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

46. The same paper in an article headed "Wars of the Gods and the Demons" alludes to the spontaneous and successful character of the meeting in Willis' Rooms presided over by John Bright and the disorderly character of the meeting presided over by Mr. Stanhope.

War of Gods and Demons.

ABANUA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

47. The same paper in an article headed. "The Government policy in reference to Afghanistan" says that according to the *Pioneer* the Russians have by secret collusion with Persia approached Herat, but does not know whether the report is true or false, though inclined to believe that it is probably false. There is no doubt that the authorities are anxious in respect of the movements of Russia. The Under-Secretary has stated in Parliament that Government has agreed to pay the Amir twelve lakhs of rupees per annum, and that it has special friendship with the Amir. The Government policy is, "Let the foe be dealt with by others." The Amir will front the foe; the Amir will fight Russia; the British Government will from behind applaud, encourage, and when necessary assist with money and war materials; if necessary, the Government is prepared to help with troops. But the rumour is the Amir has not agreed to this proposal. The contemplated policy of Government is not bad, but whether they lose or gain by it cannot be stated. When the Russians actually come near Herat, we shall be able to understand it. But pursuance of such a policy has enabled the Afghan several times to cheat British officers. The British Government has long wished to possess Herat; in 1841 the East India Company received instructions from the Secret Committee on the subject. The order was anyhow to possess Herat. Major Todd was sent to Herat with some lakhs of rupees with instructions to bribe the Amir's minister. Major Todd accordingly made friendship with the Amir's minister, and built a fort at Herat, and in a few days Herat was taken possession of by the Pathans (?) Dost Mohammed next took it from Persia. The sir ar who now holds is nobody's—neither Amir's, nor the English Government's, nor Russia's. If Russians anyhow come to Herat, they will live in the fort built by the English and fight the English from there. The English know how the Afghans behave, but can do nothing. It is necessary to keep them in hand. If people call it madness, if money goes for nothing, if there be shame, all these signify little. Again, the money paid to the Afghans does not come from England; it is paid by the people of India. It is not easy to understand this laughable policy. The English

are trying to win over the Afghans; so are probably the Russians. The Russians are now at a great distance from Afghanistan, but many believe that they are come quite near. If they are not near, they will shortly be, there is no doubt; and when the boundaries of the Russian Government will be as close to Afghanistan as those of India are, each will try to keep the Afghans in hand, and the Amir like a heartless woman will flirt with both the infatuated lovers. Gradually the wealth and arms of both would go to make Afghanistan powerful; when so strengthened, the object of the English will be attained. Afghanistan will prevent Russia's advance. But Englishmen know that the Afghans are never a match for disciplined European troops. If therefore in time the Russian and the Afghan fight each other, England will have to stand up in aid of the Afghans. And for the defence of Afghanistan England will be involved in a serious war. Such entanglement will probably be injurious in two ways: first, the Afghans are unprincipled and treacherous. It is quite possible that under the influence of Russian gold they may turn against their allies the English. On the other hand, if, while fighting in Afghanistan, the Russians defeat the English, then for various reasons it will be difficult for Englishmen to keep India. Again, whatever efforts the English may make to establish friendship with the Afghans, they will never be obedient to the English nor will they love the English. This matter English officers appear to know well enough. The Russian will be more believed than the English. By repeated incursions into Afghanistan and oppression of the people the English have given cause to the Afghans for mortal hostility. They are not likely to feel so hostile to the Russian.

48. The same paper observes that the Anglo-Indians who are opposed to the Jurisdiction Bill say that it is to them a matter of deep humiliation that natives who be-

Prestige of Anglo-Indians.

long to the conquered race should try them. The Madras High Court native Judge, Muthuswamy, has given a good reply to this argument. He says that in many civil suits the Secretary of State for India figures as plaintiff or defendant. Most of these cases are decided by native munsifs. If therefore decision by natives of cases in which the Secretary of State is involved does not lower the glory or prestige of the English nation, there is no reason why the presence of a European indigo-planter before a native Judge would be regarded as a sign of humiliation.

49. The same paper says, a Mem has brought a criminal charge against a native. This time it is not a charge of attempt at rape. The defendant attempted

Assault on a European lady.

to assault the lady, Mrs. Abbott. The Magistrate has charged the defendant under section 323. The defendant has cited witnesses to establish his innocence. An Assistant Commissioner is trying the case. When the European ladies of this country stood up against the Jurisdiction Bill people were amazed. Many thought, what have women to do with law? But from the time the Jurisdiction Bill has been proposed European ladies have become more inclined to bring cases. If this Bill be passed into law, God only knows what shape this inclination will assume.

50. The same paper says that Mr. Greenway of the Naini Tal Brewery assaulted a native for addressing him as "tum" (you). The Magistrate does not

Mr. Greenway's case.

believe that the assault was as bad as stated by the complainant. Mr. Greenway cited no witnesses, but the Magistrate, considering his white skin, believed his statement and declared him innocent.

51. The same paper regrets to hear that Mr. Rivers Thompson has not thought fit to grant the boon of election to the Dacca Municipality, and attributes this

Dacca Municipality and the Lieutenant-Governor.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

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ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

change of view to the discussions on the Ilbert Bill. If places like Dacca and Santipore be not fit for the boon, the writer fails to see what places can be fit for it.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

52. The same paper counsels his countrymen not to make common cause with either the liberal or the conservative party in England; for whatever party is in power carries things with a high hand, while the party out of office shows sympathy for India. The zemindars are also taken to task for placing their memorials against the Rent Bill in the hands of Lord Lytton and Mr. Stanhope, and appointing Mr. Lethbridge as their agent. Many educated natives are hostile to the zemindars, and they think that any contributions by zemindars to the proposed national fund should not be accepted, as the zemindars' money is impure and whatever it touches will become impure.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA.

53. The following observations are extracted from the same paper:—
The attitude of Englishmen towards Bengalis. It has become a habit with Englishmen to abuse the Bengalis. If any Bengali anywhere does wrong, commit a fault or make a mistake, there is minute enquiry into it, and the smallest error is magnified and proclaimed to the world. Their mental condition is now such that to bring a Bengali into trouble is one of the great objects of their lives. Englishmen of old were not so. By their mental vigour they commanded respect. Englishmen of the present day want to keep the people down by brute force. They proclaim selfishness and the people are ceasing to respect them. They understand very well that the Bengalis are not inferior to them in any respect; hence their anger and the consequent abuse.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

54. The *Sambad Prabhakar* of the 10th September observes that if Justices Mitter and Nanabhai Haridas on the Ilbert Bill. the opponents of the Ilbert Bill carefully read the Minutes of Justices Romesh Chunder Mitter and Nanabhai Haridas, they will find that the fear they have of injustice being done to them by native Magistrates is perfectly groundless.

PRABHATI,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

55. The following observations are extracted from the *Prabhati* of the 10th September:—The Lieutenant-Governor on the Ilbert Bill. The Governor's minute on the Ilbert Bill has been published. As to what it would be with reference to the Ilbert Bill there was no doubt in any one's mind. But he has now openly and clearly given expression to his views. His views are similar to those of the High Court; there is nothing new. Why then should we review his minute? But we have been pained at heart on reading his concluding words. What he has said is not worthy of a Christian ruler. He has said that natives are wanting in physical and moral courage. Ears should not hear such things. Are natives inferior in moral courage to Europeans? Let God be witness. We do not want to say anything more. It is no wonder that he should think natives incompetent to try Europeans, who believes natives to be wanting in moral courage. He says that natives have no idea of equality. By saying this, has not the Lieutenant-Governor brought discredit on his own nation? To say that natives have not that idea under English rule is to bring disgrace upon Englishmen. Praise to you, Lieutenant-Governor; what we expected from you you have indeed fulfilled!

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

56. The *Navavibhakar* of 10th instant says that Municipal Committees in this country are not very frugal in the matter of expenditure of money, and often frame schemes of local improvement which their means do not enable them

to carry out, and which they therefore endeavour to carry out with borrowed money. The following case is given :—

“ The income of the Howrah Municipality is not very small ; but its expenditure also is not very small. They have, for one instance, to pay Rs. 700 or 800 to the Municipal Secretary himself. There can be no bar to expenditure at a place where the Commissioners are so liberal in disposition. There is gas-light within the Howrah Municipality ; there are steam-rollers for metalling roads ; there are foot-paths ; there are *pucka* drains ; there are arrangements for watering the streets ; there are *karpurdazes* of a dark, grey and pallid complexion ; in fact, there are arrangements of all kinds as in the Calcutta Municipality. But go only 150 cubits to the west of the municipality and you will be unable to see the man in your front without the help of moon-light ; and one cannot make one's way home within the village through mud and water without assuming the guise of Adam. Most of the rate-payers of the Howrah Municipality have to suffer hardships of this sort. The Municipal Commissioners say,—there is no money in our hands ; how shall we remove the hardships ? They say this on the one hand, but they have on the other contributed Rs. 50,000 towards the construction of the bridge over the railway. There was no necessity to borrow so much money for the sake of the bridge. We hear again that proposals are being made to carry water-works into Howrah. Money would assuredly have to be borrowed if water-works are carried. The inconveniences which the rate-payers suffer for the sake of water may be easily removed by digging a few tanks within the municipality. But the Commissioners will not do that ; they will lay on water-pipes and set up water-works by borrowing two or three lacs of rupees. That is why we say that things cannot be saved unless the high-flown style of the municipalities is put down.”

The writer then expresses approval of the rules recently promulgated by the Government of India regarding the borrowing power, &c., of Municipal Committees, District Committees, and other local Committees, and adds :—“ Local Committees often spend money for the good of particular individuals or particular sections of a community on the pretext that works conducive to the public good would be undertaken. The general body of rate-payers consider such expenditure of money as waste of money. In our opinion so long as the system of self-government is not introduced, it would be well for the Government to give permission to local bodies to borrow money not on the strength of official opinion, but after ascertaining the views of the majority of rate-payers.”

57. In an article on the Lieutenant-Governor's Minute on the Ilbert Bill, the same paper refers to His Honor's numerical summary of the opinions which have been expressed in Bengal for and against the

The Lieutenant-Governor on the Ilbert Bill.

Bill, and observes :—“ He (the Lieutenant-Governor) has, on getting so many persons in his own party, still more strengthened the spirit of hostility which he has all along displayed against the Bill. Our Lieutenant-Governor has by stating this distinctly given expression to his own independence. Did it not occur to him for a single moment that so many persons would not have ranged themselves against the Bill if His Honor had not from the beginning set himself against Lord Ripon, and if the great white official personages in Bengal had not been emboldened and encouraged by him ? Has not Mr. Thompson, in undertaking to advocate for the hostile party, trampled under foot dispassionate regard for truth ?”

Referring to His Honor's argument in the second paragraph of his minute regarding the administrative inconvenience which would arise in consequence of the passing of the Ilbert Bill in minor sea-ports, out-of-the-way sub-divisions, &c., the writer says :—“ Who says that in special cases

NAVAVIDHAKAR,
Sept 10th, 1883.

where there is no helping it the powers of a Justice of the Peace shall not be conferred on native Honorary Magistrates? It is His Honor's own wish that has happened to betray itself. Supposing the powers of a Justice of the Peace are not conferred, where is the harm? European Honorary Magistrates will then work as they are now working. It does not follow because the jurisdiction of one class of officers is slightly increased that the powers of other officers must be taken away. None but madmen will say that by the mere passing of the Ilbert Bill the natives of this country will acquire the rank of Europeans. This is only a beginning or start made with the view of facilitating equality of rank at some future time. We believe those people to be the eternal enemies of India who have set themselves about preventing by various pretexts the making of this start."

Referring to His Honor's argument regarding military cantonments, the writer says that there is no proof that the Government of India is unwilling, as Mr. Thompson says, to confer the proposed jurisdiction upon native civilians within cantonments. Lord Ripon never expressed himself to this effect. The Chief Commissioner of Assam says that, if not alone, at least in conjunction with European Magistrates, native Magistrates might be able to exercise the proposed power within cantonments. If so, it may be fairly expected that in course of time native Magistrates would be able to exercise the proposed jurisdiction singly within cantonments. Then, again, supposing the natives do not exercise the jurisdiction within cantonments, where is the harm? "Shall the doors of all houses be closed against them because entrance into one house is interdicted?"

As to the case of Cuttack, the writer says that a general principle ought not to be sacrificed for the sake of a special case. Besides, it would have been better and more satisfactory if His Honor, in mentioning the case of Cuttack, had stated how many times in a year the magistrate or Joint Magistrate of Cuttack has to perform the duties of a Cantonment Magistrate. It is not fair or impartial to endeavour to stop the mouth of the Government of India by laying stress on a mere word of *zid* of the Cuttack Commissioner.

Lastly, the writer asks, what objection can there be to vesting native magistrates of districts with power over European offenders if district Magistrates, as His Honor says, do not as a matter of fact get time to do judicial work but leave it in the hands of Joint or Assistant Magistrates? "We are extremely pained by the perusal of this report of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, so full as it is of spite against Bengalees."

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

58. The same paper notices with approbation the resolution of the Government of India on the translation and publication of the Bills which are introduced into the Legislative Council of India. The writer observes that the language of a law is naturally somewhat difficult, and its translation therefore becomes more difficult. It would be therefore well to instruct the Government translators to make their translations of Bills and Acts slightly free.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

59. In another article the same paper discusses Mr. Thompson's minute on the Ilbert Bill and notices the following points :—

(1) His Honor does not agree with those who think that native Judges will award unduly severe punishment to European offenders. Why then does he say that the minds of native Judges are full of race feeling?

(2) His Honor praises native Judges for ability. How then does he anticipate mischief to Europeans from their *amlah*? If the *amlah* can behave improperly in the presence of the native Judges, surely the latter cannot be the able officers they are described to be by His Honor.

(3) His Honor believes that Europeans are dragged into criminal courts upon false charges. It would have been better if he had stated his grounds for so thinking. The writer is of opinion that the natives of this country, even when they suffer at the hands of Europeans, do not dare to bring charges against them in the criminal courts.

(4) His Honor says that it is the prevalence of perjury, forgery, &c., in Indian courts which fills the minds of Europeans with fear about those courts. But is it suggested that the atmosphere of those courts would suddenly change by the presence in them of European instead of native Judges? If not, does not this statement about the prevalence of perjury, forgery, &c., involve an *inuendo* against native Judges?

(5) His Honor questions the bodily and mental strength of native Judges to try European offenders and punish them. But where is the force of this argument in the face of the fact that native judges have fearlessly tried and punished powerful zemindars, redoubtable robbers, brave Sikhs and Rajputs, Europeans who are other than European British subjects, &c. Besides, if any native Judge fears to punish Europeans, he can be turned out of office.

That native members of municipalities cannot act fearlessly and independently in the presence of the Magistrate chairman is simply because they are not such men as ought to be made members of municipal committees.

The writer is, on the whole, of opinion that His Honor, whilst he has not put forth a single argument that possesses weight, has simply betrayed an unworthy feeling against natives and native Judges.

60. The same paper expresses delight at the endeavour which the Government is making to encourage the silk trade in Bengal.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

61. The following remarks are extracted from the *Surabhi* of the 10th September:—"We have read with sorrow and shame the minute of the English Judges. We did not expect from the High Court Judges a minute so narrow, illiberal, and worthless. Let the High Court Judges oppose the Ilbert Bill, but we never thought that they would oppose it in the same mean and illiberal spirit as ordinary Englishmen."

SURABHI,
Sept. 10th, 1883.

62. The *Prajabandhu* of the 11th September observes that the Secretary of State for India has not fixed the salary of the native Judges of the proposed Appellate Benches. If the question of fixing their salary has been left in the hands of Mr. Thompson, then God knows what will be the fate of these uncovenanted officers. Their salary should not be less than two-thirds of the salary of their European colleague. It should be higher than that of native Additional Judges. If it be fixed at Rs. 2,000 a month, competent men may be had for the post.

PRAJA BANDHU,
Sept. 11th, 1883.

63. The *Prabhati* of the 11th September quotes Mr. Hume's letter published in the *Pioneer*, and asks the Lieutenant-Governor to read it in order to discover which party was the cause of the present differences between natives and Anglo-Indians. The writer thinks that Mr. Hume has given a true history of the dispute, and that those who have carefully watched its progress and are not blinded by race animosity will admit that it was because Europeans first cast stones upon natives that natives were obliged to cast in return a few small stones upon Europeans.

PRABHATI,
Sept. 11th, 1883.

64. The *Samachar Chandrika* of the 11th September notices with pleasure the news conveyed from England that the Ilbert Bill will be passed, and that

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Sept. 11th, 1883.

native Sessions Judges and District Magistrates will be vested with jurisdiction over European offenders. The writer blesses the Secretary of State and thanks Lord Ripon.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
Sept. 1st, 1883.

65. The *Utkaldipika* of the 1st September 1883 writes the following on the rumoured transfer of Mr. Smith, Commissioner of the Orissa Division :—

We are very sorry to learn from newspapers that the Presidency Commissioner, Mr. Munro, is going on six months' leave, and that our Commissioner is going to officiate in his place. It is further rumoured that Mr. Lewis, at present Commissioner of Chittagong, will come out as Commissioner of the Orissa Division. Should the rumour prove true, we must accept it as a misfortune, for really whole Orissa cannot but be moved at the transfer of a Commissioner of Mr. Smith's stamp. Though Orissa is a part of the Bengal Presidency, its general condition differs in more ways than one from that of Bengal. It is simply impossible that a new officer can work with the experience, good judgment and competency that characterizes Mr. Smith, has been here for several years.

The Presidency Division, which lies at the very nose of Government, can be managed by an officer of inferior merit, but Orissa, which lies at the extreme point of the presidency, and which has got tributary states attached to it, really stands in need of superior men. Experienced Commissioners ought to remain here for long periods. Besides, Mr. Smith is not going to be promoted in the present case ; so it will be far better to appoint another man to the Presidency Division than take away Mr. Smith from this place, and we believe there will be no inconvenience on that account. We pray that Government will reconsider the question and keep Mr. Smith in Orissa.

BALASORE
SAMVAD BAHIKA,
August 30th, 1883.

66. The *Balasore Sambadbahika* of the 30th August 1883 writes the following on the reduction of the travelling allowance of school Deputy and Sub-Inspectors.

The Deputy Inspectors up to April last were drawing travelling allowance at the rate of four annas per mile and the Sub-Inspectors at the rate of three annas. From April last all Deputy and Sub-Inspectors drawing salaries of Rs. 100 and downwards a month have been allowed travelling allowance at the rate of two annas a mile only. This has told heavily upon Sub-Inspectors, and specially on Deputy Inspectors drawing Rs. 100 a month. Officers in other departments do not travel in all the months of the year, whereas the cold weather is looked upon by all superior officers as the touring season. This is on account of the fact that the roads and ghats are generally dry in winter ; consequently the appointed places are easily accessible and no particular inconvenience is felt in any way. The Deputy and Sub-Inspectors being required to travel in all the seasons of the year, the rate of two annas a mile does not cover all their actual charges, and it is especially insufficient in the rainy season. There are many places, especially in Orissa, that are quite inaccessible in the rainy season except by means of palkis. They charge Rs. 2-8 to carry palkis over five kos or 10 miles ; in special cases they charge still more. The Deputy Inspectors pay the amount, but obtain only Rs. 1-4 from Government for the above journey. The loss is not small. Even the school Sub-Inspectors oftentimes travel in palkis and pay such large amounts as noted above. Should it be urged that the officers, if they travel only in carts, will incur less charge, it must be said in reply that the number of roads is very small in a district, that carts only move on metalled roads, and that most of the schools are situated in tracts far way from such roads. Consequently palkis or ponies are necessary for the inspection of the above schools. It is sure that two annas a mile is quite insufficient to keep a palki or maintain a pony. Therefore

we say that it was by no means proper to reduce the travelling allowances of Deputy and Sub-Inspectors of schools.

67. The *Balasore Sombadbahika*, in a long article speaks of ryots' grievances in Khoorda in Pooree district, and in the end offers thanks to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor for his reducing their rents by 20 per cent.

BALASORE
SAMBAD BAHIKA,
August 30th, 1883.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 15th September 1883.

